IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Welker, et. al. Group Art Unit: 3663 Serial No.: 10/598,732

Confirmation No.: 9557

Filed: September 8, 2006 For: Marine Seismic Survey Method and

Attv Dkt.: 14.0248-PCT-US System

(WGEC0108)

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Applicants, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.115(a), submit the following preliminary amendments prior to examination of this application.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.